

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Original) A method for splicing video slices associated with a plurality of packet identifiers (PIDs), comprising:  
loading a splicing hardware with a current PID and a target PID for an upcoming splice;  
receiving an interrupt indicating that a splice has been performed; and  
loading a new target PID into the splicing hardware for a next splice.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
processing a transport stream for packets; and  
generating the interrupt in response to receiving a packet of a particular type.
3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the particular type packet is specifically inserted into the transport stream to cause the interrupt.
4. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the particular type packet is a scrambled audio packet.
5. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein one or more packets are included in the transport stream between the particular type packet and a first packet with the new target PID.
6. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein one or more padding packets are inserted in the transport stream between the particular type packet and a first packet with the new target PID.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the interrupt is generated by the splicing hardware as a result of performing the splice.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
identifying video packets in a transport stream;

checking the PID of each video packet in the transport stream against the current PID; and

providing the video packet if the PID of the packet matches the current PID.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

if a splice has been performed and prior to loading the new target PID into the splicing hardware, transferring the target PID as the current PID within the splicing hardware.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the splicing is performed at a sub-picture level and a plurality of splices are performed for an intra-coded (I) picture.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein video slices for three or more PIDs are spliced to form the I picture.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

defining an array with a plurality of elements; and

setting the plurality of elements in the array with the plurality of PIDs.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12, further comprising:

traversing the elements in the array as each splice is performed; and

providing the PID stored in a current element as the new target PID.

14. (Original) A method for splicing video slices associated with a plurality of packet identifiers (PIDs), comprising:

initiating a splicing hardware with a set of parameters for an upcoming splice;

receiving an interrupt indicating that a splice has been performed; and

updating the set of parameters for the splicing hardware for a next splice.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the initiating includes

loading the splicing hardware with a current PID and a target PID for the upcoming splice.

16. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the updating includes loading a new target PID into the splicing hardware.

17-19. (Cancelled)

18. (Original) A terminal configurable to splice video slices associated with a plurality of packet identifiers (PIDs), comprising:

a demodulator operative to receive and demodulate a modulated signal to provide a transport stream;

a transport demultiplexer coupled to the demodulator and operative to receive and process the transport stream to provide a sequence of packets for a plurality of video slices associated with the plurality of PIDs, wherein the transport demultiplexer is loaded with a set of parameters for an upcoming splice and is further configured to provide an interrupt whenever a splice has been performed; and

a controller coupled to the transport demultiplexer and configured to, in response to receiving the interrupt, direct updating of the set of parameters in the transport demultiplexer for a next splice.

19. (Original) The terminal of claim 18, wherein the transport demultiplexer is loaded with a current PID and a target PID for the upcoming splice and is updated with a new target PID for the next splice.

20. (Original) The terminal of claim 18, wherein the controller is further configured to maintain an array of elements, wherein the elements in the array are stored with PIDs to be spliced, and wherein the transport demultiplexer is updated based on PIDs stored in the array.